

The Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland QC, arrived today in Kigali, where she is set to review plans ahead of the 26th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which will be held in Kigali the week of 20 June 2022.

Secretary-General Scotland will be a special guest speaker at the Conference of Heads of Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa, where the heads of anti-corruption agencies from across the Commonwealth's 19 African member states will meet in Kigali from 3 – 7 May 2022. The conference will focus on the theme of 'Combating Corruption for Good Governance and Sustainable Development in Africa'.

The Secretary-General will be in the country from 30 April – 4th May 2022.

On her arrival in Kigali, she said: "I am delighted to be back in Rwanda and it is with confidence and anticipation that I look forward to the Commonwealth family coming together for a face-to-face Heads of Government meeting in Kigali this June. This is the first CHOGM to be held in Africa for over a decade and I commend the Government and people of Rwanda for their outstanding commitment and dedication to delivering an exemplary CHOGM. I thank all Rwandans for their grace and fortitude in undertaking such detailed preparations to ensure a safe, secure and productive CHOGM that drives the Commonwealth forward during these trying times."

Secretary-General Scotland will also be conducting bilateral meetings with senior government officials whilst she is in Rwanda.

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 54 independent and equal sovereign states. Our combined population is 2.5 billion, of which more than 60 per cent is aged 29 or under.